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DOJ-2018-001426 Request Details

Request Details

Correspondence

Financing

Released Records

Appeals

Submitted

Evaluation

Assignment

Processing

Closed

Contact Information

Collapse

Full Name

Mr. Jason Leopold

Organization

Investigative Reporter

Email Address

jasonleopold@gmail.com

Phone Number

2132704334

Fax Number

Mailing Address Location

United States/US Territories

Address Line 1

1669

Address Line 2

Benedict Canyon Drive

City

Beverly Hills

State/Province

CA

Zip Code/Postal Code

90210

Request Information

Agency

Office of the Attorney General

Will Pay Up To

\$25.00

Date Submitted

12/13/2017

Estimated Date of Completion

01/12/2018

Fee Category

Request Track

Simple

Request Phase

Assignment

Final Disposition

Undetermined

Description

Description

I request disclosure from the Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General the following records: Emails, memos, letters, between the OAG, the Office of Legislative Affairs, Office of Inspector General and the Office of Public Affairs and the FBI mentioning or referring to inviting to DOJ and briefing news reporters about the contents of text messages between FBI agents Peter Strzok and Lisa Page, formerly working for Special Counsel Robert Mueller, about presidential candidates Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton and others. Any and all documents, including but not limited to emails, mentioning or referring to congressional inquiries of these text messages and the individuals who sent and received them Reasonably Foreseeable Harm. The FOIA Improvement Act of 2016 amended the FOIA as follows (5 USC 552(a)(8)): (A) An agency shall— (i) withhold information under this section only if— (I) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption described in subsection (b); or (II) disclosure is prohibited by law; and (ii) (I) consider whether partial disclosure of information is possible whenever the agency determines that a full disclosure of a requested record is not possible; and (II) take reasonable steps necessary to segregate and release nonexempt information. . . . DOJ should not fail to meet the requirements of Section 552(a)(8) when processing my request and release responsive records to me in full or at least in part. I am prepared to immediately file a FOIA lawsuit against DOJ if my request is not processed in the timeframe required under the statute.

Request Expedited Processing

Collapse

Made Request?

No

Request a Fee Waiver

Collapse

Made Request?

Yes

Expedited Justification

I am the senior investigative reporter for BuzzFeed News and formerly senior investigative reporter and on-air correspondent for VICE News. Additionally, my reporting has been published in The Guardian, The Wall Street Journal, The Financial Times, Salon, CBS Marketwatch, The Los Angeles Times, The Nation, Truthout, Al Jazeera English and Al Jazeera America. I request a complete waiver of all search and duplication fees. If my request for a waiver is denied, I request that I be considered a member of the news media for fee purposes. Under 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(4)(A)(iii), “Documents shall be furnished without any charge ... if disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.” Disclosure in this case meets the statutory criteria, as the records sought detail the operations and activities of government. This request is also not primarily in my commercial request, as I am seeking the records as a journalist to analyze and freely release to members of the public. If I am not granted a complete fee waiver, I request to be considered a member of the news media for fee purposes. I am willing to pay all reasonable duplication expenses incurred in processing this FOIA request. I will appeal any denial of my request for a waiver administratively and to the courts if necessary.

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Exhibit A

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DOJ-2018-001427 Request Details

Request DetailsCorrespondenceFinancingReleased RecordsAppeals



Contact Information

Collapse

Full Name	Mr. Jason Leopold	Mailing Address Location	United States/US Territories
Organization	Investigative Reporter	Address Line 1	1669
Email Address	jasonleopold@gmail.com	Address Line 2	Benedict Canyon Drive
Phone Number	2132704334	City	Beverly Hills
Fax Number		State/Province	CA
		Zip Code/Postal Code	90210

Request Information

Agency	Office of the Associate Attorney General	Fee Category	
Will Pay Up To	\$25.00	Request Track	Simple
Date Submitted	12/13/2017	Request Phase	Assignment
Estimated Date of Completion	01/12/2018	Final Disposition	Undetermined

Description

Description	I request disclosure from the Department of Justice Office of the Associate Attorney General the following records: Emails, memos, letters, between the Office of Associate Attorney General, OAG, the Office of Legislative Affairs, Office of Inspector General and the Office of Public Affairs and the FBI mentioning or referring to inviting to DOJ and briefing news reporters about the contents of text messages between FBI agents Peter Strzok and Lisa Page, formerly working for Special Counsel Robert Mueller, about presidential candidates Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton and others. Any and all documents, including but not limited to emails, mentioning or referring to these text messages. Reasonably Foreseeable Harm. The FOIA Improvement Act of 2016 amended the FOIA as follows (5 USC 552(a)(8)): (A) An agency shall— (i) withhold information under this section only if— (I) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption described in subsection (b); or (II) disclosure is prohibited by law; and (ii) (I) consider whether partial disclosure of information is possible whenever the agency determines that a full disclosure of a requested record is not possible; and (II) take reasonable steps necessary to segregate and release nonexempt information. . . . DOJ should not fail to meet the requirements of Section 552(a)(8) when processing my request and release responsive records to me in full or at least in part. I am prepared to immediately file a FOIA lawsuit against DOJ if my request is not processed in the timeframe required under the statute.
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Request Expedited Processing

Collapse

Made Request?	No
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Request a Fee Waiver

Collapse

Made Request?	Yes
Expedited Justification	I am the senior investigative reporter for BuzzFeed News and formerly senior investigative reporter and on-air correspondent for VICE News. Additionally, my reporting has been published in The Guardian, The Wall Street Journal, The Financial Times, Salon, CBS Marketwatch, The Los Angeles Times, The Nation, Truthout, Al Jazeera English and Al Jazeera America. I request a complete waiver of all search and duplication fees. If my request for a waiver is denied, I request that I be considered a member of the news media for fee purposes. Under 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(4)(A)(iii), “Documents shall be furnished without any charge ... if disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.” Disclosure in this case meets the statutory criteria, as the records sought detail the operations and activities of government. This request is also not primarily in my commercial request, as I am seeking the records as a journalist to analyze and freely release to members of the public. If I am not granted a complete fee waiver, I request to be considered a member of the news media for fee purposes. I am willing to pay all reasonable duplication expenses incurred in processing this FOIA request. I will appeal any denial of my request for a waiver administratively and to the courts if necessary.

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DOJ-2018-001428 Request Details

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Contact Information

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Full Name	Mr. Jason Leopold	Mailing Address Location	United States/US Territories
Organization	Investigative Reporter	Address Line 1	1669
Email Address	jasonleopold@gmail.com	Address Line 2	Benedict Canyon Drive
Phone Number	2132704334	City	Beverly Hills
Fax Number		State/Province	CA
		Zip Code/Postal Code	90210

Request Information

Agency	Office of the Deputy Attorney General	Fee Category	
Will Pay Up To	\$25.00	Request Track	Simple
Date Submitted	12/13/2017	Request Phase	Assignment
Estimated Date of Completion	01/12/2018	Final Disposition	Undetermined

Description

Description	I request disclosure from the Department of Justice Office of the Deputy Attorney General the following records: Emails, memos, letters, between the Deputy Attorney General, the Associate AG, OAG, the Office of Legislative Affairs, Office of Inspector General and the Office of Public Affairs and the FBI mentioning or referring to inviting to DOJ and briefing news reporters about the contents of text messages between FBI agents Peter Strzok and Lisa Page, formerly working for Special Counsel Robert Mueller, about presidential candidates Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton and others. Any and all documents, including but not limited to emails, mentioning or referring to these text messages. Reasonably Foreseeable Harm. The FOIA Improvement Act of 2016 amended the FOIA as follows (5 USC 552(a)(8)): (A) An agency shall— (i) withhold information under this section only if— (I) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption described in subsection (b); or (II) disclosure is prohibited by law; and (ii) (I) consider whether partial disclosure of information is possible whenever the agency determines that a full disclosure of a requested record is not possible; and (II) take reasonable steps necessary to segregate and release nonexempt information. . . . DOJ should not fail to meet the requirements of Section 552(a)(8) when processing my request and release responsive records to me in full or at least in part. I am prepared to immediately file a FOIA lawsuit against DOJ if my request is not processed in the timeframe required under the statute.
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Request Expedited Processing

Collapse

Made Request?	No
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Request a Fee Waiver

Collapse

Made Request?	Yes
Expedited Justification	I am the senior investigative reporter for BuzzFeed News and formerly senior investigative reporter and on-air correspondent for VICE News. Additionally, my reporting has been published in The Guardian, The Wall Street Journal, The Financial Times, Salon, CBS Marketwatch, The Los Angeles Times, The Nation, Truthout, Al Jazeera English and Al Jazeera America. I request a complete waiver of all search and duplication fees. If my request for a waiver is denied, I request that I be considered a member of the news media for fee purposes. Under 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(4)(A)(iii), “Documents shall be furnished without any charge ... if disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.” Disclosure in this case meets the statutory criteria, as the records sought detail the operations and activities of government. This request is also not primarily in my commercial request, as I am seeking the records as a journalist to analyze and freely release to members of the public. If I am not granted a complete fee waiver, I request to be considered a member of the news media for fee purposes. I am willing to pay all reasonable duplication expenses incurred in processing this FOIA request. I will appeal any denial of my request for a waiver administratively and to the courts if necessary.

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DOJ-2018-001429 Request Details

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Contact Information

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Full Name	Mr. Jason Leopold	Mailing Address Location	United States/US Territories
Organization	Investigative Reporter	Address Line 1	1669
Email Address	jasonleopold@gmail.com	Address Line 2	Benedict Canyon Drive
Phone Number	2132704334	City	Beverly Hills
Fax Number		State/Province	CA
		Zip Code/Postal Code	90210

Request Information

Agency	Office of Legislative Affairs	Fee Category	
Will Pay Up To	\$25.00	Request Track	Simple
Date Submitted	12/13/2017	Request Phase	Assignment
Estimated Date of Completion	01/12/2018	Final Disposition	Undetermined

Description

Description	I request disclosure from the Department of Justice Office of Legislative Affairs the following records: Emails, memos, letters, between the Deputy Attorney General, the Associate AG, OAG, the Office of Legislative Affairs, Office of Inspector General and the Office of Public Affairs and the FBI mentioning or referring to inviting to DOJ and briefing news reporters about the contents of text messages between FBI agents Peter Strzok and Lisa Page, formerly working for Special Counsel Robert Mueller, about presidential candidates Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton and others. Any and all documents, including but not limited to emails, mentioning or referring to these text messages. Reasonably Foreseeable Harm. The FOIA Improvement Act of 2016 amended the FOIA as follows (5 USC 552(a)(8)): (A) An agency shall— (i) withhold information under this section only if— (I) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption described in subsection (b); or (II) disclosure is prohibited by law; and (ii) (I) consider whether partial disclosure of information is possible whenever the agency determines that a full disclosure of a requested record is not possible; and (II) take reasonable steps necessary to segregate and release nonexempt information. . . . DOJ should not fail to meet the requirements of Section 552(a)(8) when processing my request and release responsive records to me in full or at least in part. I am prepared to immediately file a FOIA lawsuit against DOJ if my request is not processed in the timeframe required under the statute.
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Request Expedited Processing

Collapse

Made Request?	No
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Request a Fee Waiver

Collapse

Made Request?	Yes
Expedited Justification	I am the senior investigative reporter for BuzzFeed News and formerly senior investigative reporter and on-air correspondent for VICE News. Additionally, my reporting has been published in The Guardian, The Wall Street Journal, The Financial Times, Salon, CBS Marketwatch, The Los Angeles Times, The Nation, Truthout, Al Jazeera English and Al Jazeera America. I request a complete waiver of all search and duplication fees. If my request for a waiver is denied, I request that I be considered a member of the news media for fee purposes. Under 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(4)(A)(iii), “Documents shall be furnished without any charge ... if disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.” Disclosure in this case meets the statutory criteria, as the records sought detail the operations and activities of government. This request is also not primarily in my commercial request, as I am seeking the records as a journalist to analyze and freely release to members of the public. If I am not granted a complete fee waiver, I request to be considered a member of the news media for fee purposes. I am willing to pay all reasonable duplication expenses incurred in processing this FOIA request. I will appeal any denial of my request for a waiver administratively and to the courts if necessary.

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DOJ-2018-001430 Request Details

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Contact Information

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Full Name	Mr. Jason Leopold	Mailing Address Location	United States/US Territories
Organization	Investigative Reporter	Address Line 1	1669
Email Address	jasonleopold@gmail.com	Address Line 2	Benedict Canyon Drive
Phone Number	2132704334	City	Beverly Hills
Fax Number		State/Province	CA
		Zip Code/Postal Code	90210

Request Information

Agency	Office of Public Affairs	Fee Category	
Will Pay Up To	\$25.00	Request Track	Simple
Date Submitted	12/13/2017	Request Phase	Assignment
Estimated Date of Completion	01/12/2018	Final Disposition	Undetermined

Description

Description	I request disclosure from the Department of Justice Office of Public Affairs, the following records: Emails, memos, letters, between the Deputy Attorney General, the Office of Associate AG, OAG, the Office of Legislative Affairs, Office of Inspector General and the Office of Public Affairs and the FBI mentioning or referring to inviting to DOJ and briefing news reporters about the contents of text messages between FBI agents Peter Strzok and Lisa Page, formerly working for Special Counsel Robert Mueller, about presidential candidates Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton and others. Any and all documents, including but not limited to emails, mentioning or referring to these text messages. Reasonably Foreseeable Harm. The FOIA Improvement Act of 2016 amended the FOIA as follows (5 USC 552(a)(8)): (A) An agency shall— (i) withhold information under this section only if— (I) the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption described in subsection (b); or (II) disclosure is prohibited by law; and (ii) (I) consider whether partial disclosure of information is possible whenever the agency determines that a full disclosure of a requested record is not possible; and (II) take reasonable steps necessary to segregate and release nonexempt information. . . . DOJ should not fail to meet the requirements of Section 552(a)(8) when processing my request and release responsive records to me in full or at least in part. I am prepared to immediately file a FOIA lawsuit against DOJ if my request is not processed in the timeframe required under the statute.
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Request Expedited Processing

Collapse

Made Request?	No
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Request a Fee Waiver

Collapse

Made Request?	Yes
Expedited Justification	I am the senior investigative reporter for BuzzFeed News and formerly senior investigative reporter and on-air correspondent for VICE News. Additionally, my reporting has been published in The Guardian, The Wall Street Journal, The Financial Times, Salon, CBS Marketwatch, The Los Angeles Times, The Nation, Truthout, Al Jazeera English and Al Jazeera America. I request a complete waiver of all search and duplication fees. If my request for a waiver is denied, I request that I be considered a member of the news media for fee purposes. Under 5 U.S.C. §552(a)(4)(A)(iii), “Documents shall be furnished without any charge ... if disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.” Disclosure in this case meets the statutory criteria, as the records sought detail the operations and activities of government. This request is also not primarily in my commercial request, as I am seeking the records as a journalist to analyze and freely release to members of the public. If I am not granted a complete fee waiver, I request to be considered a member of the news media for fee purposes. I am willing to pay all reasonable duplication expenses incurred in processing this FOIA request. I will appeal any denial of my request for a waiver administratively and to the courts if necessary.

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